

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 NIC-01 AID-05 IO-10

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R 251025Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6896

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, TZ, ET

SUBJECT : REACTION TO ETHIOPIAN EXECUTIONS

1. TANZANIAN PRESS AND RADIO GAVE HEAVY AND DISAPPROVING COVERAGE NOV. 25 TO ANNOUNCED EXECUTION OF 60 FORMER OFFICIALS BY ETHIOPIAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT, WITH FRONT-PAGED PHOTOS GENERAL AMAN ANDOM AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER MAKONNEN IN BOTH MAJOR DAILIES. EDITORIAL IN OFFICIAL TANU PARTY PAPER, UHURU, CALLS NEWS "ASTONISHING", NOT BECAUSE MEN HAVE NOT BEEN EXECUTED BEFORE, BUT BECAUSE THIS DONE BY GOVERNMENT WHICH HAD PROMISED RESTORE RIGHTS TO ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE. "IT IS OUR FAITH THAT KILLING PEOPLE IS NOT THE WAY OF SOLVING PROBLEMS FACING AFRICAN NATIONS. ON THE CONTRARY, KILLING PEOPLE BRINGS MORE PROBLEMS BECAUSE IT CREATES HATE AND DIVISION." WHILE REJECTING ANY DESIRE TO INTERFERE IN ETHIOPIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, EDITORIAL NOTES THAT AFRICA IS AN ENTITY, AND EVENTS IN ONE COUNTRY CAN BRING OTHERS INTO DISREPUTE. TANZANIA WOULD LIKE TO SEE ETHIOPIA PUSH FORWARD TOWARDS PEACEFUL CHANGE, EDITORIAL CONCLUDES, BUT "AFRICAN NEEDS REVOLUTIONISTS AND NOT KILLERS."

2. COMMENT: GIVEN TANZANIA'S USUAL RELUCTANCE TO CRITICIZE

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PUBLICLY BROTHER AFRICAN REGIMES, THE PROMPT AND UNFAVORABLE RESPONSE

TO
ETHIOPIAN EXECUTIONS SUGGESTS STRONG DISAPPROVAL WITH EXECUTIONS
BOTH IN THEMSELVES AND AS TENDING TO BLACKEN REPUTATION OF AFRICA
AS A WHOLE.
CARTER

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Message Attributes

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